

BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES

The benefits of the RIDS program are very positive in terms of additional water sources in a high growth area such as the lower west coast of Florida. Overall, the RIDS optimizes existing reclaimed water supplies, maximizes surface water use, diversifies supply sources, reduces water shortage declarations, offsets potable water usage, reduces disposal volumes, and offsets groundwater withdrawals. Along with these obvious benefits, the following table (Table 23) presents incentives for the RIDS by subregion:

Table 23	
Benefits and Incentives by Subregion	
Subregion 1 -- Cape Coral, Waterway Estates, and North Ft. Myers	
1.	Meet increasing demands
2.	Will allow water to be shared between utilities for beneficial reuse
3.	Promote reduction of on-site septic systems, increasing reclaimed water supply
4.	Allow growth to continue in the region by providing a supplemental supply of irrigation water
5.	Reduce reliance on surface water discharge
6.	Will allow expansion of reclaimed water systems and infrastructure
7.	The region will be able to utilize or store close to 100% of reclaimed water on an annual basis
8.	Rather than disposing of it in a deep injection well, beneficially reuse North Ft. Myers' excess reclaimed water in Cape Coral
9.	Reduce discharges to the Caloosahatchee River
Subregion 2 -- Ft. Myers Central, Ft. Myers South, Gateway, and Lehigh Acres	
1.	Meet increasing demands
2.	Will allow water to be shared between utilities for beneficial reuse
3.	Promote reduction of on-site septic systems, increasing reclaimed water supply
4.	Allow growth to continue in the region by providing a supplemental supply of irrigation water
5.	Reduce reliance on surface water discharge
6.	Will allow expansion of reclaimed water systems and infrastructure
7.	The region will be able to utilize or store close to 100% of reclaimed water on an annual basis
8.	Reduce disposal of effluent to the Caloosahatchee River at the Ft. Myers South and Central WWTPs
9.	Interconnect with Gateway will allow effluent from Lehigh to be beneficially reused
Subregion 3 -- GES, Fiesta Village, and Ft. Myers Beach	
1.	Meet increasing demands
2.	Will allow water to be shared between utilities for beneficial reuse
3.	Promote reduction of on-site septic systems, increasing reclaimed water supply
4.	Allow growth to continue in the region by providing a supplemental supply of irrigation water
5.	Reduce reliance on surface water discharge
6.	The region will be able to utilize or store close to 100% of reclaimed water on an annual basis
7.	Reduce disposal of effluent from the Ft. Myers Beach WWTP to the deep well injection system
8.	Irrigation water would be conveyed to high growth areas near I-75

Table 23 Benefits and Incentives by Subregion	
Subregion 4 -- North Collier, Pelican Bay, and Bonita Springs	
1.	Meet increasing demands
2.	Will allow water to be shared between utilities for beneficial reuse
3.	Promote reduction of on-site septic systems, increasing reclaimed water supply
4.	Allow growth to continue in the region by providing a supplemental supply of irrigation water
5.	Reduce reliance on surface water discharge
6.	Will allow expansion of reclaimed water systems and infrastructure
7.	The region will be able to utilize or store close to 100% of reclaimed water on an annual basis
Subregion 5 -- Naples, South Collier, and Marco Island	
1.	Meet increasing demands
2.	Will allow water to be shared between utilities for beneficial reuse
3.	Promote reduction of on-site septic systems, increasing reclaimed water supply
4.	Allow growth to continue in the region by providing a supplemental supply of irrigation water
5.	Reduce reliance on surface water discharge
6.	Will allow expansion of reclaimed water systems and infrastructure
7.	The region will be able to utilize or store close to 100% of reclaimed water on an annual basis
8.	Interconnect with Collier County will allow Naples to send additional reclaimed water for beneficial reuse
9.	Reduce disposal of effluent discharge to the Gordon River